

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 20, 2010

President Barack H. Obama
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

At 4:00pm yesterday, members of Congress conducted a conference call with officials from the U.S Embassy in Haiti, Department of State, Fairfax Search & Rescue, CDC, FEMA and family members of those missing in the Hotel Montana. This conference call was beneficial to the families, and we appreciate and thank those who participated.

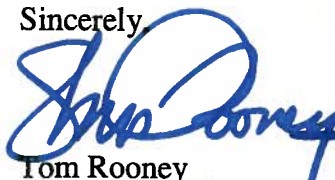
On behalf of the families impacted by the devastating earthquake in Haiti, we strongly urge you to continue search and rescue efforts in Haiti. In discussions with officials at the Department of State, we understand that the decision to change focus from search and rescue to search and recovery will be made by the Haitian government in coordination with the assisting nations. We ask that U.S. government officials involved in these discussions advocate for continuing search and rescue efforts until the possibility of survival no longer exists.

We are concerned that adequate protocols for identifying and repatriating remains have not yet been developed. The families have endured enough pain and suffering. We ask that your administration do everything within its power to ensure that the remains of Americans lost in this tragic disaster are properly identified and returned to loved ones with the dignity and expediency that they deserve.

Sincerely,



Jack Kingston
Member of Congress



Tom Rooney
Member of Congress



John Mica
Member of Congress